CITY OF MOUNTAIN VIEW

#20 WDE

Domestic Waste

Public Works

April 8, 1980

Mr. James Van Sant
Environmental Department Manager
Fairchild Camera and
Instrument Corporation
Mail Stop 19-120
464 Ellis Street
Mountain View, CA 94042

Dear Jim:

It was a pleasure meeting with you, Marc Brooks, and Gordon Duff on March 25, 1980. I think our exchange of information and concerns about water supply and industrial waste disposal was very productive. The following will summarize the important points of our discussion and will add some new information that I have obtained since our meeting.

1. Hetch-Hetchy Water Quality - During the next year, the quality of Hetch-Hetchy water will change as the blend of Hetch-Hetchy and Calaveras/San Antonio water varies. Starting April 15, and continuing through May 31, the supply will be 100 percent from Hetch-Hetchy (300 mgd) and will have a conductivity of 40-60 micromhos. After June 1, and until March 31, 1981, the Hetch-Hetchy flow will be restricted to 160 mgd while repairs are made to the cement lining of the San Joaquin Valley Pipeline #3. During this period, the Hetch-Hetchy supply will be supplemented by the Calaveras/San Antonio supply which has a conductivity of 250-300 micromhos. Throughout the summer months, the blend will be about 50 percent Hetch-Hetchy and 50 percent Calaveras/San Antonio waters. As demand decreases thereafter, the blend will change gradually to a maximum of about 80 percent Hetch-Hetchy to 20 percent Calaveras/San Antonio.

2. Air in the Water - The problem that you have from time to time with air in the water is apparently due to operation of the Sunol Valley Water Treatment Plant that processes water from the Calaveras/San Antonio supply. In general, the amount of air will be proportional to the percentage of water supplied from this source. The solution to the problem is believed to be construction of a filtered water storage tank downstream from the plant. This work is not scheduled as yet and so is at least a year or two away. In the meantime, we will be looking into the feasibility of installing automatic air relief valves to remove the air after it gets into our system.

3. Turbidity Control - The incident of high turbidity water from the Hetch-Hetchy supply on December 10, 1979 resulted in a costly shut-down of several industries, including your plant, for up to five hours. Our procedure in the future if visible turbidity occurs again, will be to shut-down our aqueduct connection and supply the system for a few hours from system storage while opening hydrants to flush the dirty water from the system. You can help us to initiate this procedure when necessary by calling the Water Division Office as soon as possible at 967-7211, extension 249 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. or by calling the North County Communications Center at other times at 329-2413. The emergency number 911 may also be used to reach the Communications Center. The Center will dispatch the appropriate Water Division personnel if you clearly state the seriousness of the problem.

4. Industrial Waste Discharge Control - The Water Quality Control Plant in Palo Alto is being upgraded and start-up of the tertiary treatment processes will occur in the next two or three months. During this start-up, and thereafter, it will be critical that any malfunction in your pretreatment facilities be reported immediately to the treatment plant at 329-2598 and the Mountain View Waste Water Division at 967-7211, extension 270 so counter-measures can be taken if necessary. A copy of the City's Revised Sewer Service Ordinance is enclosed for your information. Division 2 pertains specifically to industrial waste. Your industrial waste discharge permit has been renewed and a copy has been sent under separate cover to Greg Geary.

5. Cost of Service - Starting about July 1, charges for sewer service to all customers will be on the basis of quality as well as quantity. Industries will be charged on the basis of flow, chemical oxygen demand (COD), suspended solids (SS), and ammonia (NH_3). These charges have not been fixed yet but will be about $0.27 per 100 cubic feet of waste water discharged, $32 per 1000 pounds of COD, $50 per 1000 pounds of suspended solids, and $257 per 1000 pounds of NH_3. Based on preliminary data, your total service charge will be equivalent to about $0.59 per 100 cubic feet of discharge.

6. Water Conservation - Because of water supply limitations, rising costs for waste water treatment, and limited capacity in the sewers and treatment facilities, everything you can do to reduce your total water use will be appreciated.

Please call if you need assistance or further information.

Sincerely,

Norman H. Lougee
Water Division Engineer

NHL/Z
T/A14-16

Enclosure

cc: DPW, WDE, WWS